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USSR-KOREAN TRADE INDISPENSABLE FOR  
NORTH KOREAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

USSR SUPPLIES RAW MATERIALS -- Hwanghae Imjinpo, 12 Jun 49

The cultural and economic treaty concluded between the USSR and North Korea recently has proven to be indispensable for the development of North Korean trade and the people's economy.

Since 1946 the USSR has supplied North Korea with the materials needed for the latter's economic development. The USSR-Korean trade for 1947 increased to 204 percent, and for 1948, 357.7 percent of that of 1946. The volume of trade has increased in direct proportion to the development of the people's economy; or conversely, the development of the people's economy is directly associated with the increase of the trade.

The volume of trade for 1949 is expected to increase to 456.5 percent of that of 1946. Trade for 1950 is expected to be as much as 937.5 percent of that of 1946. The imports are mainly machinery and machine parts, while national surplus goods, such as metal and chemical products, constitute a large part of the exports to the USSR.

Imports for industrial uses constituted 50 percent of the total imports for 1946, and 80 percent for 1948. The imports of industrial raw materials and machinery helped North Korea to develop its industries and to build a permanent foundation for the people's economy. Such materials enabled North Korea to manufacture pig iron in large quantity. North Korea is now able to make an unlimited amount of sulphuric acid which is the basic element for the ammonium sulphate fertilizer. Thus, the import of the basic material for fertilizer not only helped the development of North Korea's chemical industry, but the agriculture as well.

The modern machinery and equipment imported from the USSR were indispensable in the development of North Korean heavy industry. The import of lead pipes, essential for locomotives, and other important materials was particularly valuable to the development of the railroad industry.

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LARGE IMPORTS EXPECTED FOR 1949 - 50 -- T'u-sa Simun, 11 Jun 49

During 1949 and 1950, a large amount of coal, oil, mining machines and equipment, steam and electric locomotives, about 30,000 units of cotton-spinning machines, and 1,000 units of cotton-weaving machines will be imported from the USSR. Also, during 1949 - 50, essential factories will be expanded, reconstructed, or newly built. These include: high-voltage-wire-manufacturing plants, large-type transformer plants, rolling-stock plants, automobile plants, light-machine plants, farm-equipment plants, machine-tool plants, synthetic plants, compressor plants, special rubber-processing plants, cotton mills, etc. The Ch'ongjin Ironworks and the Acji Coke Plant are also expected to be expanded.

The USSR-North Korean trade has increased its pace noticeably since May this year.

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